

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows.

1. - 9. (Cancelled)

10. (Previously Presented) An electrically driven power steering apparatus comprising:

- a housing;
 - a ball screw shaft extending within said housing and connected to a steering mechanism;
 - a motor having a rotor;
 - a ball screw nut, connected to said rotor of said motor, for converting a rotational force of said motor into a force acting in an axial direction and transferring the same force to said ball screw shaft;
 - a bearing for supporting said ball screw nut so as to be rotatable with respect to said housing; and
 - a presser member, screwed to said ball screw nut, for thus pressing said bearing against said ball screw nut,
- wherein said presser member has a thread for engaging with a thread of said ball screw nut, and a connecting device capable of limiting a relative rotation between said presser member and said ball screw nut even if a bonding force between the threads is lost, the function of limiting a relative rotation being performed after said threads are fastened.

11. (Previously Presented) An electrically driven power steering apparatus according to claim 10, wherein said connecting device limits the relative rotation between said presser member and said ball screw nut, by means of a shearing force of a resin member filled into communication holes respectively provided with said presser member and said ball screw nut.

12. (Previously Presented) An electrically driven power steering apparatus according to claim 10, wherein said connecting device limits the relative rotation between said presser member and said ball screw nut, by a part of said presser member deformed toward said ball screw nut.

13. (Cancelled)

14. (Cancelled)

15. (Previously Presented) An electrically driven power steering apparatus according to claim 10, wherein the relative rotation between said presser member and said ball screw nut is limited by a frictional force exerted between a deformed part of said presser member and said ball screw nut.

16. (Cancelled)

17. (Previously Presented) An electrically driven power steering apparatus according to claim 10, wherein said presser member has the female thread, and said ball screw nut has the male thread engaged with the female thread.

18. (Previously Presented) An electrically driven power steering apparatus according to claim 10, wherein said presser member abuts to said bearing rotatably supporting said ball screw nut.

19. (Cancelled)

20. (Previously Presented) An electrically driven power steering apparatus according to claim 10, wherein said presser member is attached to said ball screw nut with a torque small enough not to cause a deformation of the circulation path in said ball screw nut.

21. (Currently Amended) An electrically driven power steering apparatus comprising:
a housing;
a ball screw shaft extending within said housing and connected to a steering mechanism;
a motor having a rotor;
a ball screw nut, connected to said rotor of said motor, for converting a rotational force of said motor into a force acting in an axial direction and transferring the same force to said ball screw shaft;
a bearing for supporting said ball screw nut so as to be rotatable with respect to said housing; and

a presser member, screwed to said ball screw nut, for thus pressing said bearing against said ball screw nut,

wherein said presser member has a connecting device capable of limiting a relative rotation between said presser member and said ball screw nut, by deforming at least one part of a thin ~~cylindrical~~ portion toward said ball screw nut, the function of limiting a relative rotation being performed after said threads are fastened.

22. (Currently Amended) An electrically driven power steering apparatus according to claim 21, wherein the relative rotation between said presser member and said ball screw nut is limited by a frictional force exerted between the deformed part of said thin ~~cylindrical~~ portion and said ball screw nut.
23. (Previously Presented) An electrically driven power steering apparatus according to claim 21, wherein a filler is coated on a thread of said presser member.
24. (Previously Presented) An electrically driven power steering apparatus according to claim 21, wherein said presser member has a female thread, and said ball screw nut has a male thread engaged with the female thread.
25. (Previously Presented) An electrically driven power steering apparatus according to claim 21, wherein said presser member abuts to said bearing rotatably supporting said ball screw nut.
26. (Previously Presented) An electrically driven power steering apparatus according to claim 21, wherein said presser member has a part with which a tool for rotating said pressing member is engaged.
27. (Previously Presented) An electrically driven power steering apparatus according to claim 21, wherein said presser member is attached to said ball screw nut with a torque small enough not to cause a deformation of the circulation path in said ball screw nut.
28. (Withdrawn) An electrically driven power steering apparatus according to claim 10, wherein an elastic member is disposed on a support portion of said ball screw nut.

29. (Previously Presented) An electrically driven power steering apparatus according to claim 10, wherein said presser member has a part with which a tool for rotating said presser member is engaged.
30. (Withdrawn) An electrically driven power steering apparatus according to claim 21, wherein an elastic member is disposed on a support portion of said ball screw nut.
31. (Previously Presented) An electrically driven power steering apparatus according to claim 21, wherein said connecting device limits a relative rotation between said presser member and said ball screw nut, by means of a part of said presser member deformed toward said ball screw nut.
32. (Currently Amended) An electrically driven power steering apparatus comprising:
 - a housing;
 - a ball screw shaft extending within said housing and connected to a steering mechanism;
 - a motor having a rotor;
 - a ball screw nut connected to said rotor of said motor for converting a rotational force of said motor into a force acting in an axial direction and transferring the same force to said ball screw shaft;
 - a bearing for supporting said ball screw nut so as to be rotatable with respect to said housing; and
 - a presser member screwed to said ball screw nut for pressing said bearing against said ball screw nut,wherein said presser member has a connecting device capable of limiting a relative rotation between said presser member and said ball screw nut by deforming at least one part of a thin ~~cylindrical~~ portion toward said ball screw nut, the function of limiting a relative rotation being performed after said threads are fastened, and the relative rotation between said presser member and said ball screw nut is limited by a frictional force exerted between the deformed part of said thin ~~cylindrical~~ portion and said ball screw nut, and said presser member has a female thread, and said ball screw nut has a male thread engaged with the female thread, and said presser member abuts said bearing rotatably supporting said ball screw nut, and

said presser member has a part with which a tool for rotating said pressing member is engaged.

33. (Currently Amended) A method of manufacturing an electrically driven power steering apparatus having a housing, a ball screw shaft extending within said housing and connected to a steering mechanism; a motor having a rotor; a ball screw nut connected to said rotor of said motor for converting a rotational force of said motor into a force acting in an axial direction and transferring the same force to said ball screw shaft; a bearing for supporting said ball screw nut so as to be rotatable with respect to said housing; and a presser member screwed to said ball screw nut for pressing said bearing against said ball screw nut, the method comprising:

engaging a thread of said presser member with a thread of said ball screw nut; and
limiting deforming at least one part of a thin portion of said presser member toward said screw nut so as to limit a relative rotation between said presser member and said ball screw nut after said engaging.

34. (Currently Amended) A method of manufacturing an electrically driven power steering apparatus according to claims 33, wherein said limiting deforming at least one part of a thin portion of said presser member toward said screw nut so as to limit a relative rotation between said presser member and said ball screw nut is achieved by [[a]] caulking.

35. (Currently Amended) A method of manufacturing an electrically driven power steering apparatus ~~according to claim 33~~ having a housing, a ball screw shaft extending within said housing and connected to a steering mechanism; a motor having a rotor; a ball screw nut connected to said rotor of said motor for converting a rotational force of said motor into a force acting in an axial direction and transferring the same force to said ball screw shaft; a bearing for supporting said ball screw nut so as to be rotatable with respect to said housing; and a presser member screwed to said ball screw nut for pressing said bearing against said ball screw nut, the method comprising:

engaging a thread of said presser member with a thread of said ball screw nut; and
limiting a relative rotation between said presser member and said ball screw nut after said engaging, wherein ~~where~~ said limiting a relative rotation between said presser member and said ball screw nut further comprises:

forming holes in said presser member and in said ball screw nut, wherein the holes in said presser member communicate with the holes in said ball screw nut; and filling a filler into the holes in said presser member and said ball screw nut.

36. (New) An electrically driven power steering apparatus according to claim 21, wherein said thin portion is cylindrical.
37. (New) An electrically driven power steering apparatus according to claim 32, wherein said thin portion is cylindrical.
38. (New) An electrically driven power steering apparatus according to claim 33, wherein said thin portion is cylindrical.